

Abstract

An integrated rear suspension assembly is fixedly secured to a transmission case, rear wheel carriers and frame rails of a motor vehicle. The integrated rear suspension assembly includes a plurality of trailing arms having first and second ends. Each of the first ends is secured to one of the frame rails and each of the second ends is secured to each of the rear wheel carriers. A plurality of control arms is pivotally secured to each of the plurality of trailing arms for controlling the plurality of trailing arms. A compound link member having opposing ends is attached to each of the plurality of trailing arms. The integrated rear suspension assembly also includes a transmission cross member that is fixedly secured to each of the frame rails. The transmission cross member includes fixtures that receive and secure the transmission case and each of the plurality of control arms thereto such that the transmission cross member facilitates the integrated rear suspension assembly and the transmission case to be assembled prior to securing said integrated suspension assembly to the frame rails.